TOWN COUNCIL

Town of Trumbull

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TOWN HALL Trumbull TELEPHONE (203) 452-5005



FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES June 28, 2010

Chairman Robert J. Pescatore, Jr. called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

<u>Present:</u> Debra Lamberti, John DelVecchio, Jr., Jane Deyoe, and Tony Scinto (arrived at 7:11 p.m.).

Also Present: Mr. D. Nelson, Chief of Staff, Ms. Maria Pires, Director of Finance, Janine Lynch, WPCA Commission Chairman and Town Council Chairman, Carl A. Massaro, Jr.

* The Chair reserved the right not to vote unless noted.

1. RESOLUTION TC23-86: Moved by Ms. Deyoe, seconded by Mr. DelVecchio.

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$65,150 for the Old Town Road Pump Station upgrade is hereby appropriated from WPCA Retained Earnings 20-315100 to WPCA Capital Outlay 20100000-581888.

Ms. Pires stated that the resolution represents an upgrade to the 1980 Old Town Road pump station, repairs were necessary due to clogging issues. This station is one of two originals constructed in 1975. The upgrade had been put out to bid, the three (3) bidders were; Kovacs Construction at \$85,800; Merritt Contractors at \$147,000 and NEPV Inc at \$65,150.

Mr. DelVecchio questioned whether this resolution included the 24/7 on-call funding. Ms. Lynch confirmed that this resolution only includes funding for the pump station upgrade, the 24/7 on-call service had been authorized by the WPCA commission to go out to bid at the regular meeting of the WPCA on June 23, 2010.

VOTE: Motion to recommend carried unanimously 3-0.

Mr. Scinto arrived at 7:11 p.m.

2. RESOLUTION TC23-87: Moved by Mr. DelVecchio, seconded by Ms. Lamberti.

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$51,000 for the Forensic Audit is hereby appropriated from WPCA Retained Earnings 20-315100 to WPCA 20100000-522202 Professional Services.

In response to a question from Chairman Pescatore, Ms. Pires stated that the mileage reimbursement had been due to the fact that the town assistant may have gone prior to the start of the business day or at the end. The Chair requested further information for the full Town Council meeting as to why the assistant did not have access to one of the automobiles in the town fleet.

Ms. Pires stated that the Marriott Hotel invoice represents two (2) rooms for two (2) auditors; the concierge rooms were the only rooms available. The food expense invoices represent three (3) expenditures; the auditors met with the department heads who were meeting/working through their lunch.

In response to a question from Chairman Pescatore, Ms. Lynch stated that she could not speak for the attorneys' specific invoice or billing, but did explain that it was a very complex issue that they are working on; the WPCA has been using the firm and relied on the firm more in the last two (2) months than the Jog Hill section, reiterating that it was very complex issue at hand. The WPCA Chairman and a fellow commissioner have spent 350 hours reviewing the maps and all kinds of documentation. Ms. Lynch confirmed a committee had been formed, put out an RFP and had met with CCR to negotiate a rate. The results of the audit are expected in approximately week.

Chairman Pescatore stated that the town should only be paying for food expenditures that were negotiated in the contract with the auditing firm and not for town employees; noting that the town has made budget reductions to education and other town agencies during this year's budget process and would expect efficiency across the board. Mr. DelVecchio agreed.

* The Chair voted on resolution TC23-87.

VOTE: Motion to recommend to the Town Council carried 3-1-1 (Against: Pescatore) (Abstention: Scinto).

3. RESOLUTION TC23-88: Moved by Mr. Scinto, seconded by Ms. Deyoe.

BE IT RESOLVED, That \$45,217 for Attorney Fees for MATE Arbitration Award Settlement is hereby appropriated from the Available General Fund Balance to 0101300-522203 Human Resources Ancillary.

Ms. Pires stated that the resolution represent fees associated with the two (2) arbitrations with regard to the MATE contract. The Mate contract went to arbitration after the Town Council rejected the contract and the first arbitration award, resulting in a second arbitration. The arbitrators did award the contract; November 12, 2009 was the first town council vote.

Mr. DelVecchio stated that he had previously asked a question on the record of the labor counsel of what he thought the outcome of the arbitration would be, the labor counsel's answer was, "slim to none". Mr. Delvecchio noted that it cost the town \$45,000 to go to arbitration. Mr. Scinto stated that the town council had asked the question of what the arbitration would cost, and the answer was \$8-\$10,000. Ms. Pires stated that there were two (2) arbitrations the second arbitration cost approximately \$30,000, confirming that it did cost more than the first arbitration.

Mr. Nelson confirmed for the Chair that the labor counsel will be at the full town council meeting on July 8, 2010. The MATE union did agree to certain items in 2009 although wages were one issue they did not agree on, as a result the arbitration issued an award to the MATE union, the Town Council did not accept, therefore it went to a new set of arbitrators again and that arbitration board upheld the arbitration award. Chairman Pescatore requested the two sets of dates the Town Council rejected the contract and arbitrations. Mr. Nelson agreed and stated that the arbitration was rejected by the Town Council at the February 2010 meeting.

VOTE: to recommend to the Town Council carried unanimously 4-0.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Delvecchio moved, seconded by Ms. Deyoe to adjourn. The Finance Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni, Council Clerk